

REMARKS

The Examiner has required an election in the present application between:

Species I, illustrated in Fig(s). 1;
Species II, illustrated in Fig(s). 13; and
Species III, illustrated in Fig(s). 18.

In reply to the Examiner's indication that Applicant must elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits, and without agreeing with the Examiner's characterization of the claimed subject matter, Applicant hereby elects Species I, illustrated in Fig. 1. Claims 1-13 and 20-31 are readable on Species I. Claims 1 and 20 are generic, such that claims 14-19 and 32-37 are subject to possible rejoinder. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications for non-elected subject matter.

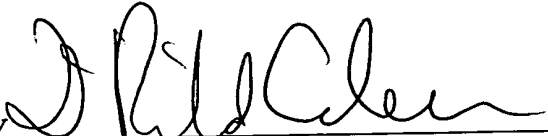
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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